

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to identify the parent application. Applicants have also amended claims 1-3 and canceled claims 9-10 and 19-25, and added new claims 26-45. Accordingly, claims 1-8, 11-18, and 26-45 remain pending in the application.

CONCLUSION


Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment preliminary to substantive examination of the claims of this application by the Examiner. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (703) 715-0870 to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 30 September 2003

By: 
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